



Boston - Jan 25

Dear Maria & Henry

I closed my last letter on ~~Friday~~^{Thursday} evening
having had to go to town to get news - before writing
the single sheet which you received by a
messenger separate from the writing case & package
— Friday we were at school all day & with-
my very especial occurrence - Friday afternoon
Henry arrived to take Lizzy & myself to
Weymouth - we had a pleasant drive & Collins
met with - found all well - little Anne
was perfectly overjoyed to see us & for a few
moments it seemed as if the house would
be overthrown with the noise that ensued
upon the meeting of the three children -
Anne's volatility knew no bounds - & she
loudly related all her experiences from her
sickness in the "Old Omnibus" - when she
went down up to the present moment -
She has grown stouter even than when
you left & was quite free from cold - she
has when she went down - Henry
does not go to school as I wrote before but
John Punches him at home - thinking
to try the virtues of home education
— Henry's little basket to be carried
down to Weymouth - & placed in the
best chamber - when John ships with little

himself & do the best for both under his
own eye - & not trouble some to mamma
& when she is away Emma or Lucia are
with them - Of course the household is ring-
ing with instances of Anne's wit - & genius
& good sense - she is decidedly the favorite
- but Henry is so fond of her himself that
he does not seem to wonder at her popularity
- we all passed the day pleasantly - in
the afternoon at Grandmother's where they were
just as usual - Aunt P. is worse than I can
perceive - & not any better - Sunday was
a beautiful day like April - & about 11
Warren & Sarah Grant arrived so you
may imagine the house was full of
us - in the afternoon I returned to Roxbury
Hervey drove Lucia & myself & we put Lizzy
in with Warren & Sarah - we got on very
well with the exception of Coblin's misbehav-
ior - so much as he stopped on Pine's
lot - & seemed to me to have an intelligent
design to break the chase by backing
into the ditch by the way side & it was
15 minutes before we got him on -

Monday ^{25th} I was at school all day - sent
Lucia to town to get off the remains of
the Weymouth Cable Co. Hull River -
which she happily accomplished -
Tuesday ^{26th} at school till two o'clock - came
home & dined & went to Boston - to see if
any preparation was to be made for the
annual meeting coming on the
next day - I had written to Calverton to
prepare his mind - & got a letter from
him saying he would be on hand
- he was uncomfortable about the
Mr Philbrick - either when the office

of Measure so well that he wished for
it in perpetuity - or he really thought
it would be better to appoint himself our right
for some reason beyond my comprehension -
but so it was - He had then, we learned
through Wm Chace - to all the board &
expressed his wish to be chosen Treasurer
& his unwillingness to act as Treasurer Pro Tem.
- This surprised us - & I was inclining to
think the board should give way & especially
as Henry had once proffered his resignation
but they refused to accept it - but you
know as well as I do now - the Mass Board
seem to yield - & do yield - instead in such
a way as to leave one less observes to misapprehend
that there is no stuff in them -

We all saw very clearly - that to change
their Treasurer for such a time, when
discontent as to financial affairs was rife
in the camp - was unfaithfulness to
the cause - to the Treasurer & to each
other - that they meant it not so -

I felt half a mind to go & tell Ellis all this
but finally resolved to let it alone till the
next day & then see - - Mr & Mrs Chapman
of Chaucy place were exceedingly disturbed
especially - your mother who thought it all
very extraordinary - I understood that
Garrison felt very bad but could not make
any impression upon Philbrick - Deborah Ann
that arrived Tuesday afternoon - I at Chaucy place & at Kennett
Wednesday morning came -

I could not get in town till 3 o'clock & I found that
they had organized as usual in the upper Chapel
the church at the Marlborough - which
by the way was obtained by Chace for 2 days

and one evening - for Thirty Three. 33 dollars
- The Report had been read, or extracts there
from - & gave great satisfaction - a resolution
respecting Agents was another consideration
when I came in - Abby Kelly & others speak
ing to it - & when that was disposed of the
Report of the nominating Committee was
read - The Officers nominated were the
same as last year save that Sam'l Phillips
was nominated Treasurer - & Henry put on
as Counsellor - & Collins put on as Counsellor
& Chace - seconding Sec. in his place -

Somebody - Johnson I believe moved that
it be laid upon the table & taken up at
11 o'clock the next morning - Some one said
that it might just as well be disposed of then
& the whole assembly - not feeling aware of the
presence of any enemies - manifested a desire
to choose officers - then & there - Ryan opposed
this intimation. that it would be well to defer
it - as an important report was to be read
the next morning - (this was the report of

The Committee to investigate accounts &c.)
which - ought for the satisfaction of all to
report before the choice of officers - this
civil intimation was quietly scoffed at
by the meeting - who voted to proceed in-
stantly to the choice of officers -

You have heard the report of your
nominating Committee - "Sam'l Francis -
its acceptance has been moved - When
Samuel Lundy got up - & moved an amend-

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ment to the report - namely - that the name
of Sam'l Philbrick be struck off as Treas - &
inserted among the Counsellors - & the
name of A. B. Chapman - be struck
off from the list of Counsellors - & be
put on Treasurer - & then he proceeded
to state his reasons therefore - you can
easily imagine what they were - He saw
no sort of reason for the change - Mr Chap-
man would probably be here in a few months
& in the interim this place would be ably sup-
plied by Mr Philbrick - He knew the ~~Committee~~
had no other reason for the proposed change
than - an idea of its being more convenient
for all parties - they had an idea that
Mr Chapman having heretofore expressed
a wish to resign & his views would be met
by the present arrangement - but Mr.
Bunney - knew Mr Chapman more intimately
by their most - intimate & he would say he
felt certain - quite certain, that Mr Chap-
man's best judgment would disapprove the
action of the Committee - he (Mr B) would
see at once - & Mr B thought that on
reflection the Committee would see that
that this change in the board was a
great mistake - vile intimations were
abroad respecting the whole board as
to financial affairs - what he asked
would be the inference - should the Treasurer
be alone of all the board displaced?

Much more he said to the same effect
and much pain was felt by those who listened
but it was salutary pain - punishing them for their
want of grit - on all hands they sprung to their
feet to help Henry - their faithful - beloved
& devoted Treasurer - J. S. May - as usual

In the wrong - I am he should laugh in any
man's face who should intimated a doubt
or a thought that the change originated
in any but a very man - Mr Chapman's own
wishes - — Edmund firmly & civilly as he could
told them that Mr Chapman would - come to
no such conclusion - ~~He~~ would know that
duty to the cause requires the reflection of
the whole house - If discontent had not
proceeded so far as to displace all

then Ryder supported Quincy & some
man behind Earl of Worcester I think said
something which foreshadowed the troubles
that might be expected the next day -
Men began to feel that they were wrong
I moved the committee for the meeting was
evidently displeased with the report -

Edmund's amendment was put - &
adopted by a tremendous aye - & Henry's
name was replaced with great enthusiasm
— Then followed some debate whether they
would proceed to act upon the whole report
or not - a letter of the Episcopal spirit thrown
in itself then - & the old Massachusetts Soc
ever true to itself - voted loudly to proceed
immediately to choose officers & wait for none
of the developments that Bishop's friends began
to hint at - ~~The~~ Edmund's mission however
was not quite discharged - he rose & proposed
another amendment viz - "that the name
of William Chace - be struck off the office
of Rec - Sec - & the name of John A Collins
be substituted in its place" - & "that the name
of John A Collins be struck from the list of members
& the name of Wm. Chace be inserted in
its place" - No debate followed - but this
amendment was also made & then the

from their unanimity by re-elected by an
emphatic vote — We were all charmed with
Sumner's denials as he said the very thing we all
thought & that without any previous colloquy — with
any of us — Phillips desired to be Treasurer & was blind
his eyes to the folly & danger of any change — & he had
talked with so many of the Agents that they thought
it must be to please him — but he & they saw before
long the danger they had escaped —
as soon as the Officers were chosen Brother May
arose & I found to my utter confusion — that he
of all people had been unwisely appointed chairman
of the committee to examine the Treasurer's report
repositary &c — The important committee —
the very pinch of the game in Brother May's
hands — think of that — I enquired with fear
& trembling who were the committee & found
that it consisted of May — Loring — Phillips
Acams — Bishop — Bosson — Chace & I think —
Bishop put on of Whitney's nomination —
— The dark hour was just coming on — The
meeting in confusion — Numbers thinking that
the Board being chosen all dangerous
over — & yet in the midst of a general
move — Mr May made a verbal report from
the important committee — to this effect
that the committee — being unable to do
any ^{thing} effectual in the absence of Mr Collins
asked leave to sit again — & wished to con-
vinue to sit until this return — & to report
then — This report was laid on the table
& the meeting adjourned to meet at the
State house at 7 o'clock — The State house
was refused at first by the committee on
buildings — but Mr Bradburn appealed
to the mass which reversed the decision

8 of the committee - I was distressed beyond
measure at the action of Br Adams Committee
on my way I found that far from Ellis
having kept his name on the list as you
charged him he had not been near the meet-
ing the whole day & so certainly did brother
May confide in his own excellent judgment
that he had not thought it necessary to notify
Ellis of his appointment - or the Committee -
Resolving in my own mind that shutters should
not go off this - I went to the Chauncy place
to tea - There was Abby Kelly - & Bradburn
& divers other friends too numerous to mention
Oh how you knew both Master through the
day - both at home & abroad -
I forgot to say that Anne & Wm Chase
were Secretaries - I ~~found~~ found a letter table
in the pulpit - Deborah had dressed her
with great care & she had a new-hoon taken
the Bowditch one - & was really quite an
object - The Meeting at the State house
was crowded - the area was filled up with
chairs brought in after the meeting opened
& cry sent from aisle to gallery was crowded
Edmund Quincy spoke - as usual without applause
but with great good sense - then Tom Paul
- his performance - was a beautiful specimen
of fine writing - that is for a college boy -
better than the commencement parts at Cambridge
usually are - then Garrison got up & merely
was pulling off his coat - was more eloquent to
the minds of the audience than all that went
before - the roof rung with applause - before
he opened his mouth - he made good speech which
brought us to nine o'clock & then a vote of thanks
was moved - & the meeting adjourned - before Mellan
could get a chance to speak - it was considered

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